

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-6, 8-14, 16-19, 21-27, 29-32, 34-39 and 48-50 have been deemed allowable and are the only claims that remain pending in the application.

Respectfully submitted,

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APPENDIX A

1. (previously presented) A vehicle comprising:
 - a body having a bumper mounting portion thereon;
 - a bumper beam mounted to the vehicle bumper mounting portion;
 - a fascia mounted to the vehicle in overlying fashion to the bumper beam, said fascia comprised of a single structural layer of polymeric material with the proviso that the polymeric material contains no mineral reinforcement nanoparticles and having a thickness of 2.0 millimeters or less; and an energy absorber integrally formed with the fascia and disposed between the fascia and the bumper beam;
 - whereby the fascia and energy absorber can be manufactured, assembled, installed and replaced as a unit.
2. (canceled)
3. (original) The vehicle of claim 1 wherein the fascia comprises at least two layers of different materials.
4. (original) The vehicle of claim 3 wherein one of the at least two layers comprises an outer layer comprising a transparent top coat material.

5. (previously presented) The vehicle of claim 4 wherein the transparent top coat has a Class A finished surface thereon.

6. (previously presented) The vehicle of claim 4 wherein the fascia further comprises an inner layer colored to have an appearance consistent with the color of the vehicle.

7. (canceled)

8. (previously presented) The vehicle of claim 6 wherein the structural layer is made of a less expensive material compared to the cost of the outer and inner layers.

9. (previously presented) The vehicle of claim 6 wherein the outer and inner layers are relatively thin compared to the thickness of the structural layer.

10. (previously presented) The vehicle of claim 1 wherein the structural layer has a thickness of about 1.5 to 2.0 millimeters

11. (previously presented) The vehicle of claim 1 wherein the structural layer is formed from recycled materials.

12. (original) The vehicle of claim 1 wherein the energy absorber is formed from beads of expanded polypropylene.

13. (original) The vehicle of claim 1 wherein the energy absorber and the fascia can be shipped as a unit due to the integral formation of the energy absorber and the fascia.

14. (previously presented) A bumper comprising:
a bumper beam for mounting to a vehicle;
a fascia for mounting to the vehicle in overlying fashion to the bumper beam, said fascia comprised of a single structural layer of polymeric material with the proviso that said polymeric material contains no mineral reinforcement nanoparticles and having a thickness of 2.0 millimeters or less;
and
an energy absorber integrally formed with the fascia and disposed between the fascia and the bumper beam;
whereby the fascia and energy absorber can be manufactured, assembled, installed and replaced as a unit.

15. (canceled)

16. (original) The bumper of claim 14 wherein the fascia comprises at least two layers of different materials.

17. (original) The bumper of claim 16 wherein one of the at least two layers comprises an outer layer comprising a transparent top coat material.

18. (original) The bumper of claim 17 wherein the transparent top coat has a Class A finished surface thereon.

19. (previously presented) The bumper of claim 17 wherein the other of the at least two layers comprises an inner layer colored to have an appearance consistent with the color of the vehicle interposed between the outer layer and the structural layer.

20. (canceled)

21. (previously presented) The bumper of claim 19 wherein the structural layer is made of a less expensive material compared to the cost of the outer and inner layers.

22. (previously presented) The bumper of claim 19 wherein the outer and inner layers are relatively thin compared to the thickness of the structural layer.

23. (previously presented) The bumper of claim 14 wherein the structural layer has a thickness of about 1.5. to 2.0 millimeters.

24. (previously presented) The bumper of claim 14 wherein the structural layer is formed from recycled materials.

25. (original) The bumper of claim 14 wherein the energy absorber is formed from beads of expanded polypropylene.

26. (original) The bumper of claim 14 wherein the energy absorber and the fascia can be shipped as a unit due to the integral formation of the energy absorber and the fascia.

27. (previously presented) A fascia assembly for a vehicle bumper comprising:
a fascia comprising a single structural layer of polymeric material with the proviso that the polymeric material contains no mineral reinforcement nanoparticles, said structural layer having a thickness of 2.0 millimeters or less, said fascia further

having an inner surface and an outer surface, the outer surface having an aesthetic appearance consistent with the styling of a preselected vehicle; and
an energy absorber formed integrally with the inner surface of the fascia.

28. (canceled)

29. (original) The fascia assembly of claim 27 wherein the fascia comprises at least two layers of different materials.

30. (original) The fascia assembly of claim 29 wherein one of the at least two layers comprises an outer layer comprising a transparent top coat material.

31. (original) The fascia assembly of claim 30 wherein the transparent top coat has a Class A finished surface thereon.

32. (original) The fascia assembly of claim 30 wherein the other of the at least two layers comprises an inner layer colored to have an appearance consistent with the color of the preselected vehicle.

33. (canceled)

34. (previously presented) The fascia assembly of claim 32 wherein the structural layer is made of a less expensive material compared to the cost of the outer and inner layers.

35. (previously presented) The fascia assembly of claim 32 wherein the outer and inner layers are relatively thin compared to the thickness of the structural layer.

36. (previously presented) The fascia assembly of claim 27 wherein the structural layer has a thickness of about 1.5 to 2.0 millimeters.

37. (previously presented) The fascia assembly of claim 27 wherein the structural layer is formed from recycled materials.

38. (original) The fascia assembly of claim 27 wherein the energy absorber is formed from beads of expanded polypropylene.

39. (original) The fascia assembly of claim 27 wherein the energy absorber and the fascia can be shipped as a unit due to the integral formation of the energy absorber and the fascia.

40 – 47. (canceled)

48. (previously presented) The fascia assembly of claim 27 wherein the single structural layer has an inner and outer surface, the inner surface of the single structural layer forming the inner surface of the fascia.

49. (previously presented) The vehicle of claim 12, wherein the fascia and energy absorber are mounted directly to the bumper beam with the proviso that no additional energy absorbing materials disposed inside or between the energy absorber and bumper beam.

50. (previously presented) The bumper of claim 12, wherein the fascia and energy absorber are mounted directly to the bumper beam with the proviso that no additional energy absorbing materials are disposed inside or between the energy absorber and bumper beam.